Period. Div.

EQUAL RIGHTS

"MEN AND WOMEN SHALL HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND EVERY PLACE SUBJECT TO ITS JURISDICTION"

Amendment to the United States Constitution now before Congress.

OCT 29 1937
PERIODICAL DIVISION

A Maud Younger Memorial

By INEZ HAYNES IRWIN

Women's Power For Peace Or War

By FLORENCE BREWER BOECKEL

Educational Director of the National Council for the Prevention of War

Equality For Women Scores Another Victory

October 1, 1937

NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

Washington, D. C.

Vol. 23, No. 18 Price Five Cents

Equal Rights

Official Organ
of the
NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY
Capitol Hill Washington, D. C.
Phone Atlantic 1210
Published Semi-Monthly at
144 B Street, N. E., Washington, D. C.
and Printed at
406 W. Redwood Street, Baltimore, Md.
Entered as second-class matter at the post-office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879.
Subscription, $1.00 a Year
Foreign Subscription, $1.50

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NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

OBJECT

To secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships—in particular to secure the adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution, and the adherence of the United States to the Equal Rights Treaty. The Woman's Party also supports the proposed Equality Amendments to the Covenant of the League of Nations.

THE PROPOSED EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

"Art. 1—Men and women shall Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction.

"Art. 2—Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

Introduced

Senate—By Senator Townsend (Del.), and Senator Burke, (Neb.), Feb. 5, 1937, (Senate Joint Resolution No. 65).

House—By Representative Ludlow, (Ind.), Jan. 5, 1937, (House Joint Resolution No. 1).

Present Status

Senate—Before Judiciary Committee; favorable report by sub-judiciary committee June 23, 1937.

House—Before Judiciary Committee; favorable report by sub-judiciary committee June 16, 1937.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS TREATY

"Art. 1—The contracting States agree that upon the ratification of this Treaty men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the territory subject to their respective jurisdictions."

Signed

By Cuba, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Uruguay, at Montevido, December, 1933.

PROPOSED EQUALITY AMENDMENTS TO COVENANT OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries the right of vote shall not be denied or abridged on the ground of sex."

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries there shall be no distinction based on sex in their law and practice regarding nationality."

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries men and women shall have equal rights in all other fields."

"The members of the League undertake that there shall be both men and women, with full voting powers, in all delegations to the Council and Assembly of the League and to all Conferences under the auspices of the League."

Present Status

On agenda of the September, 1937, Assembly of the League of Nations.

Two Standards Of Living

IT HAS been stated that an effort is being made to ascertain what percentage of working women is working for economic reasons, and what percentage is working in order to buy luxuries.

In this connection there are a number of things to be considered. In a nation where every effort has directed toward maintaining a high standard of living for everyone, it is difficult to define "luxuries." For those occupying the lowest rung of the economic ladder, anything not necessary for keeping body and soul together might be termed a luxury. Those on each successive rung consider as luxuries whatever constitutes the difference between their economic status and the status of those directly above them.

Apparently, women are to be consigned to the lowest economic rung by those who object to their working for luxuries. Should any attempt be made to prevent men working to provide funds for the purchase of anything they desire to buy, the voices of those proposing such a regulation would be drowned out by the mighty howl that would arise.

Are they then in favor of allowing women to work for only the bare necessities of life, and if so, who is to decide what constitutes the bare necessities? Would they be permitted bread, but no cake and would they be limited to homespun but no silk? Would they be denied the luxury of an automobile but allowed in its place a bicycle?

And who would decide whether a woman could work at all? Would she have to take a pauper's oath in order to establish her right to work? And if she were educated and trained for executive jobs and for the professions, would her compensation be measured by the necessity for essentials, whatever they might be determined to be?

No one has ever considered a census of men in order to ascertain how many are working because of necessity or only in order to provide luxuries for themselves and their families. Is it not then a little ludicrous to suggest seriously such a thing in regard to women?

The son of a wealthy man is encouraged to work for a living, because there is no certainty that wealth is permanent. It is necessary that he be trained and experienced, because as an individual he must be economically independent.

Luxuries, generally speaking, are the things that make life a little more pleasant—a little more livable. When attained, they are what constitute a high standard of living, and that is what we claim to be endeavoring to provide for everyone. Is this higher standard of living then to be only for men, who will be free to work to attain it, while women may only share in it to the extent that men may be willing to divide? And what of the woman who has no men in her family to divide the luxuries? Is she then to be deprived of the opportunity to provide them for herself and her dependents?

How long will it take and what amount of intelligence will it require in a supposedly enlightened day and generation for civilized persons to eliminate sex when considering ability and economic necessity? Would not equal rights be fairer and more sensible?

It is time for women to coordinate their forces and put a stop to these absurd attempts to limit their field of work, merely because by the accident of birth they are women. The Equal Rights Amendment, now before Congress, would prove the effective barrier to such discriminations. Without it, women continue to be targets of competitors and impractical would-be friends.

A Maud Younger Memorial

INEZ HAYNES IRWIN, HER INTIMATE FRIEND SAYS: "IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO THINK OF HER RESTING—EVEN IN IMMORTALITY"

By Inez Haynes Irwin

THE twenty-fifth of September, Maud Younger will have been dead a year and three months. It is difficult for me to use the word *dead* in regard to her, for she so flamed with life that it is impossible to think of her as resting—even in immortality.

I am sure I do not have to reiterate to any member of the Woman's Party the facts of Maud Younger's life which make us want to erect a permanent memorial to her. I will, therefore, say only that except for those few years in her youth which she devoted to labor unionism, she gave her life to the cause of woman. She was a feminist of the staunchest kind. She brooked no compromise. She defied all let or hindrance. She was the gentlest human being I have ever known. Yet her will—in the cause of woman—was adamant. Nobody could withstand her combination of tact, serenity, humor, *savoir faire* and inflexible determination.

A movement is now on foot to erect that permanent memorial to her. A committee is being formed and ideas as to the memorial are pouring in on the chairman almost by every mail. I cite a few. I quote them in the order in which they have come in.

Nina Allender says, "Personally I would like a Maud Younger fund, an endowment for the feminist work which would be in line with her activities. I am not at all interested in a portrait or statue as none exists and such things made from photographs, etc. are always uninspired and static. I had dinner in the spring with Theresa Russell, who loved Maud. She suggests a fountain. As you remember, Maud had a great enthusiasm for fountains."

Anita Pollitzer says, "Since color and movement and warmth express Maud to me so much more than a static medium, it seems to me that of the two suggestions in your letter, a portrait, taken from the picture used in suffrage days, would leave a more vivid record. Miss Paul has talked to me about how much it means to have the portraits of the British feminists in their National Gallery and if we could get a really distinguished artist to paint one and if it could be placed in the Capitol, bearing a name plate, it would memorialize her work there in the Capitol and carry on her constant desire to keep the Woman's Party name before Congress. I hope I may know what your thoughts are on this; probably there will be many ideas."

Carrie Harrison says, "A beautiful bench of green marble because she loved color, and a bronze plate on the side or edge, saying, 'Maud Younger, who gave all she had and all she was to Equal Rights'."

Florence Bayard Hillis says, "My choice would be a portrait to be hung in our National Headquarters at Washington, where full association and appreciation of her valiant work in behalf of justice to women, would be not only properly placed, but in a position to have her efforts better understood—as well as to be properly cared for. If I may further express an opinion, I think the portrait should be preferably the work of a woman, if a sufficiently efficient one can be found, and of this I should think there can be no doubt."

If I myself were to choose, after nearly a quarter of a century of friendship, something to symbolize Maud Younger, it would be an open hearth with a great fire. A fire glows, sparkles, blazes, flames. It is ever changing, but ever scattering beauty—a kind of spiritual force. Above all, it always emanates warmth. That was Maud Younger, changing, but always warm, serene, true—strong. And so, that is why the idea of a fountain, which is the open fireplace of the out-of-doors—leaping, sparkling, changing in sunshine and shadow—seems beautifully to symbolize her.

On the other hand, I am also very much delighted by the thought of a beautiful marble bench, on which the weary could find rest.

In a park before the Soane Museum in London stands a marble memorial to Mrs. Ramsey MacDonald. As I remember, it is a bench. She gave her life to improving living conditions among the children of the poor. This memorial is carved profusely with the heads and figures of children.

If the memorial to Maud Younger were to be a fountian or a bench, I would like to have it linked somehow with the woman movement. The inscription which Carrie Harrison suggested might be amended to: "She gave all she was and all she had to help woman."

Your committee welcomes suggestions. Please send them addressed to me, in care of the National Woman's Party, Alva Belmont House, Capitol Hill, Washington, D. C.

Distinguished Visitors From India Entertained At Headquarters

Distinguished visitors at Woman's Party Headquarters last week were Dr. Parmanand, of India, her husband, Mr. Parmanand, of the Indian Civil Service, and their cousin, Dr. Randas.

Dr. Parmanand, who is a member of the National Council of Women, and a member of the Academic Council of Nagpor University, was the guest of honor at a tea at Alva Belmont House on Sunday afternoon, September 26, when she spoke informally on the Status of Women in India.

Attired in the picturesque native dress of her native land, the brilliant young Indian woman, who is devoting much of her time to the interests of women of India in an effort to better their status, told of the organizations of women and their national and international work.

Dr. Parmanand and her husband are Barristers, Lincoln's Inn, of London, England. Mr. Parmanand is in the Indian Administrative Service, his office corresponding to that of Judge of a Superior Court in this country. The couple attended the Coronation in England last spring and since that time have been touring Europe. They will cross the continent to San Francisco, sailing from there for the Philippines and hope to visit Japan and China, if conditions permit, before returning home.

While in Washington, Dr. Parmanand was a guest at Woman's Party Headquarters.

Women's Power For Peace Or War

By Florence Brewer Boeckel,
Educational Director of the National Council for the Prevention of War

IS THERE any woman who, if she does not do everything she can now to prevent war, will be able to face her children or to live with her own conscience should war come?

But what can the average woman do? I believe the members of the National Woman's Party know better than most what the individual citizen can do to affect government policy. Congressmen are at home at least for the next few weeks and can be reached and though they cannot legislate they can exert an influence even between sessions. Also, the address of the President is well known.

However, before anyone can act they must feel that they understand the situation. I am glad to be able to tell the readers of *Equal Rights* what I believe the present war-peace situation is.

The peace movement, as everyone knows, is divided on the question of our neutrality law which is opposed by those who are willing to accept the alternative of our joining again with other nations in a war to end war. I am very earnestly in support of the neutrality law and of its invariable and automatic application in all war situations. My reasons for feeling as strongly as I do about it are briefly these:

In the first place, I believe that the first duty of any government is to protect its people against the worst of all dangers—war—and the neutrality law is devised to protect this country against at least some of the policies and incidents which we learned from our World War experience inevitably lead to entanglement in the wars of other nations.

The law might well, and probably will, be strengthened to give further protection than it now does. The advantage of one nation keeping out of a possible world conflict would be an advantage not only to that one nation but to all others when they get back to normal international life.

In the second place, the present world situation confronts us with this fact. Certain nations find themselves at a disadvantage in the status quo. So long as they can point to inequalities and injustices in the opportunity of various peoples to achieve national well-being, and can lay the fact of their unsatisfactory condition to the policies of other governments they are easily able to lead their people to accept dictatorship and war. These nations have only one means of bringing about a change in the status quo, namely, war.

The nations more favorably situated have another alternative. They can change the status quo by concessions which will undermine the appeal of the dictators to their people for the support of war and will increase the possibility of avoiding war. It cannot be proved that concessions on the part of the "Have" nations will prevent war, but there is no question but that a policy of maintaining the status quo by force will lead to war. If, by the invariable application of the neutrality act, the United States can bring about a general acceptance of the fact that it cannot be counted upon for any aid or support in war, it will thereby exert an influence for a policy of peaceful change and adjustment. So long as governments rely upon war as an ultimate resource, their attention and effort will not be definitely enough directed toward other lines of action to bring about the necessary results.

Neutrality is not an isolationist policy except as it is a policy of "isolationism from war." But if it is war we want to avoid that policy of non-participation must be definitely established before any form of international cooperation can be safely undertaken. This must be felt particularly strongly by those who believe that the influence of women is an influence for peace. In this country, women have won an equal voice with men in the government, but when it comes to international action, the influence of the women of the United States is not strengthened by being combined with the influence of the women of other countries for in many of those countries with which cooperation would be carried on women are without a voice in the government, nor are they under present conditions able to exert an active influence in the League of Nations.

To my mind the feminist and the peace movements are two sides of the same question. This does not mean that I believe the influence of all women is an influence for peace, but rather that both feminists and pacifists take their stand on the conviction of the worth of the individual and the need of individual freedom and responsibility if there is to be human progress. They are both movements against the arbitrary control of the individual by outside force. Since international action now plays so large a part in questions of peace and war, the effort of the National Woman's Party and similar groups in other countries to obtain an equal voice for women in the deliberations and policies of the League of Nations becomes of great importance.

What American women can do today for peace is to exert all the pressure they can upon their Congressmen and upon the President to apply the neutrality act in the Far Eastern situation and thereby establish an independent American peace policy. In general, since peace or war depends upon government action American women as voters can make their anti-war position clear by doing what William James long ago urged when he said: "If you want peace, put peace men in power," and in between elections when they cannot vote peace they can talk peace—to everyone everywhere until this government, which like all other governments, must be confident of practically the unanimous support of its people if it is to attempt to carry on a modern war, will be so doubtful of that support that it will see to it its policies are consistently such as will lead to the maintenance of peace.

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Equality For Women Scores Another Victory

INTER AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION GOES ON RECORD FOR EQUALITY AND COMMENDS MEXICAN PRESIDENT

EQUALITY for women scored another Inter American victory during August and September. The Third Inter American Conference on Education held in Mexico City August 22-29 adopted resolutions calling for equal pay for equal work for men and women teachers, expressing sympathy for the general movement to obtain equal suffrage for women and congratulating the President of Mexico on his recent declarations in favor of this measure of reform.

In March of this year the General Secretariat of the Third Inter American Conference on Education invited the Inter American Commission of Women to send a delegation to the Conference. This was an official conference with the representatives of the American governments assembled to discuss various aspects of the educational needs of this hemisphere. It met in the beautiful Palace of Fine Arts.

The Commission accepted the invitation and sent a delegation under the leadership of Mademoiselle Madeleine Sylvain, member of the Inter American Commission for Haiti, herself a noted educator, specialist in rural education, who was also a delegate for the government of Haiti in the Congress. Mrs. Hazel Moore (U. S. A.), leader in the establishment of Birth Control Clinics, was vice-chairman of the delegation. Other members were: Mrs. Frances B. Stewart (U. S. A.), member of the Inter American Committee of the International League for Peace and Freedom; Professor Consuelo Rubio (Mexico), Director of the Benito Juarez School; Professor Maria Efraina Rocha (Mexico), Secretary-General of the National Committee for Proletarian Children; and Professor Maria del Refugio Garcia (Mexico), Secretary-General of the United Front for the Rights of Women. The Inter American Commission was entitled to speak, but only government delegates were allowed to vote.

Mademoiselle Sylvain presented resolutions on behalf of the Commission before the Ninth Section of the Conference which were adopted on August 24 unanimously and with applause. She, along with the other members of the Commission's delegation, also spoke in the plenary session, where the following resolutions were adopted:

"14—The III Inter American Conference on Education recommends to the governments of America that women teachers be paid the same salaries as men teachers for equal work and that they enjoy equal opportunities with men in all education activities.

"15—The III Inter American Conference on Education views with sympathy the movement in favor of the civil and political rights of women.

"16—The III Inter American Conference on Education gives a warm vote of applause to the illustrious Mexican statesman, President Lázaro Cárdenas, for his declarations in favor of the vote for Mexican women."

When the resolutions came before the plenary session for final adoption, they met with some resistance. A heated debate took place when the chief of the Mexican delegation, Manuel R. Palacios, took the position that rights of women had nothing to do with education and that it was not a proper subject to come before the Conference. This opinion, however, was not shared by the majority of governments represented. Especially warm in their sponsorship of the equality resolutions were delegates of the governments of Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Peru, and Uruguay. The United States delegation remained neutral during the debate, but finally voted for the resolutions as adopted.

The attitude of the head of the Mexican delegation was mystifying not only to the women delegates but to others as well inasmuch as General Lázaro Cárdenas, President of Mexico, was at the same time making a tour of various centers in Mexico and in Yucatan and Vera Cruz announced his intention to include in his message to the National Congress a recommendation that suffrage be granted to the women of Mexico. On September 1 in his message to the Mexican Congress on its opening day, President Cárdenas delivered his recommendation on woman suffrage and in eloquent terms expressed his belief in the theory of equality for women. *(Editor's note:* Text of this section of President Cárdenas' message will appear in the next issue of *"Equal Rights.")*

"The granting of suffrage to Mexican women," said Miss Doris Stevens, Chairman of the Inter American Commission of Women, "will be in line with the recommendation to American governments adopted by the recent Conference on the Maintenance of Peace held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. With the important country of Mexico in the suffrage column, women in the other American republics where they are still not permitted to vote will find their task less difficult. The Commission has sent its fervent congratulations to President Cárdenas on his statesman-like attitude. He becomes outstanding among American statesmen, too few of whom are wise enough to see that the culture of a nation is inextricably bound up with a better position for women."

An Interesting Feminist Visitor From Cuba

Senorita Graciela Guerra, of Havana, Cuba, representative for Cuba on the Committee of Petitions of the Inter American Commission of Women, called at the Commission's office in the Pan American Union in Washington last week. She is one of the younger feminists of her country, was formerly an officer of the Lyceum, one of the leading women's organizations, and is at present in this country commissioned by her government to make a study of home economics in the United States and to report her findings.

Professionally, Miss Guerra is a specialist on rural education, a member of the staff of the Department of Home Economics, Department of Agriculture of Cuba.

Miss Guerra points with pride to the fact that since the women got the vote in Cuba in 1935 it has been the policy of the government to encourage more women in administrative posts; that there are seven women in Congress; two women assistant secretaries in the Cabinet, one in the Department of Labor and one in the Department of Education; and several women in the consular service.

Australian Woman Leader Visits America

In order that they may appreciate that measure of equality they enjoy, Mrs. Laura Gapp, executive officer of the United Association of Women's Organizations of Australia, who was a guest at Alva Belmont House, Woman's Party headquarters in Washington, recently, feels that young girls and women of today should be constantly reminded of the work of the pioneers for equal rights.

"They must understand," she said, "that the fact that they go to college, enter the trades and professions and vote is because those pioneer women sacrificed, endured ridicule and abuse, and still persisted in a campaign that made this possible." She feels that the greatest danger to women today is the tendency to take these gains for granted without realizing that the fight is not yet won, nor are past gains secure.

Coming to this country to attend the Pan-Pacific Conference in Vancouver, to which she was a delegate from Australia, Mrs. Gapp stopped in New York and Washington, conferring with organizations and officials favoring protective legislation for women. "While we are opposed to protective laws applying to women only, we want to know why some women take the opposite view," said Mrs. Gapp. "To feel sure we are right, we believe we must know both sides of the question and view it impartially. After consulting with many leaders, including Mary Anderson, head of the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor, I still do not understand how anyone can be so blind as not to see that protective laws for women only will eventually destroy the working women to whom they are applied. Working women are being exploited again, and the worst of it is that this time many of those doing the exploiting are their impractical friends, who apparently do not realize the blow they are dealing."

The United Association of Australia is comparable to the National Woman's Party in the United States, in that it seeks complete equality for women. Its president is Mrs. Jessie Street, wife of Judge Kenneth Street, son of Sir Philip Street, and one of the country's outstanding women.

Mrs. Gapp is secretary of The Open Door International and is active in other organizations working for improved status for women.

At a tea given in the garden of Alva Belmont House in Washington, she talked informally to a group of leaders from the Woman's Party and other national organizations.

A Call To Arms

To link together in co-operation for the advancement of humanity, seeking *equality*—not so-called *rights*—was the keynote struck on the last day of the Convention of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs at Haddon Hall, Atlantic City, N. J., July 23, 1937.

Dramatically it was emphasized again and again that women in their March of Time had been called upon to resist certain protective and special privileges in order to gain an equal footing in the world of business and the professions, and that to be EQUAL meant freedom of choice which should be accorded to every human being to pursue a vocation. Limitation or restriction, legislative or otherwise, segregating women as a class, while seeming to be protective, is disastrous, and, on the other hand, it is quite obvious that if woman, when put to the test, fails to give and take on an equal footing with men, she deserves only the subordinate place of the irresponsible person who *must* have special and protective legislation which would only give her *rights*—and not equality.

The clear and concise presentation of *equality* by the National Woman's Party in the symposium arranged to discuss a "Woman's Charter," setting forth the social and economic objectives of women throughout the world, brought about an overwhelming vote against special legislation aimed to establish rights and privileges under a Charter for Women, as such. The Equal Rights Amendment was endorsed, and the Equal Rights Treaty which is on the League of Nations agenda for September Assembly, was approved.

International Relations, discussed under the able direction of Miss Kathryn Starbuck, also stressed co-operation—World Economic Co-operation As The Means To Peace.

Summarizing the proceedings, both from a business standpoint as to the Federation in convention assembled and the spiritual direction evidences in thought and action of formal and informal groups and individuals, again brought to the fore "co-operation" which was further expressed in the call for a Group Action Council of Professional and Service Club Groups to join together, nationally and internationally, for the advancement of women economically. Representatives of the several groups invited met with the B. & P. W. Committee at the Convention, and representatives from the following groups were introduced to the Convention:

Osteopathic Women's National Association,
American Federation of Soroptimist Clubs,
Zonta International.

Thus the world of Business and Professional Women MARCHES ON!—The American Soroptimist, September, 1937.

Pooled Resources For A Home

A Federal Housing Administration folder, with pictures of three modest, but attractive dwellings shown as being made possible to those in the lower income bracket through this Agency, carries the following cut lines:

"$24.14 per month is paying for this $2,850 home in the Southwest. By combining incomes, the owner, a barber, his wife and her sister, both school teachers, find the monthly payments on the $2,250 Insured Mortgage well within their means."

It thus appears that the three wage earners, by pooling their resources, are enjoying a real home.

In the same way, a boy and girl earning small wages, often pool their resources, and by marrying have not only the companionship of one another, but are able to have a home. And yet there are those who would deprive them of both. They would give them their choice of relinquishing one salary, the girl's, thus reducing their standard of living by half, or remaining single and each earning their own living. It is a very unfair discrimination against marriage. The unmarried may pool their resources as they see fit and benefit accordingly. It is those who enter into a marriage contract who are made to suffer for so doing.

Women On Every News Front

STATUS OF WOMEN IN FINLAND

Finnish women are admitted to all services of the State, with the exception of the Ministry of National Defense and the positions depending on it, as well as a small number of other posts specified in an ordinance of 1926-27. If, in practice, they have not yet obtained positions in the higher administrative and judiciary services, this is due to the fact that, as their admission dates from 1926 only, they have not yet been able to acquire the necessary qualifications for such posts nor served the number of years on which their promotion to the higher grades of the respective services depends.

Women have equal legal status with men in regard to property, testamentary and inheritance rights, contracts and domicile. The Marriage Law, which came into force in 1930, is based on equality between husband and wife. With a few exceptions, existing labor legislation applies to women in the same way as it applies to men. There is no discrimination against married women's right to work.

Finnish women were enfranchised as early as 1907 and in the first election following this event, in 1907, they gained 19 seats. Fourteen women M. P.'s were returned in last year's election.

Women municipal servants receive salaries equal to those of their male colleagues; the same is the case in the teaching profession. The principle of equality for both sexes also applies to pensions. In private enterprise, however, women's salaries are generally inferior to those of men; there are even cases where women's earnings are lower by half those those of men doing exactly the same kind of work. The lower clerical and secretarial posts are almost entirely occupied by women.

About 500,000 Finnish women work on the land; that is about 60 in 100 women workers. Three-fifths of the women cultivate their own land. Approximately 100,000 women are occupied in industry and commerce. In certain professions, women are more numerous than men; in the teaching profession, in nursing, the postal, telegraph and telephone services; also as bank clerks, dentists and tourist guides women outnumber men. The number of women doctors is considerable.

In general, it may be said that the economic depression has not, as in so many other countries, resulted in discriminations against the woman wage-earner. But, though her work is not restricted by law, she has still, even in this advanced country, to fight against traditions, prejudices and egoistic interests putting obstacles into the way of women's progress.—*Status of Women in Finland*, published by the Finnish Association of Professional and Business Women.

WOMEN REPLACED BY BOYS

The following from the July-August issue of the International Bookbinder, by Mary McEnerney, secretary of Local No. 30, Bindery Women's Union, and also a County Commissioner, will be of interest to those concerned with the effect of so-called protective laws applying to women only:

Illinois has just put into effect an eight-hour law for women. Exceptions were granted to fruit and vegetable canners for three months in the year, and to small stores at Christmas-time.

Representatives of the graphic arts tried to get an exemption for seasonal and emergency work but failed to get any consideration.

If there is any trade that is seasonal, it is the printing trade. Not seasonal by months, but by weeks, especially on publications. Then there is the mail order catalogues and tariffs.

Many of our members lose one or two days a week, and many, one week in a month.

We have had a basic eight-hour day for 30 years, with a state law of 10 hours. Overtime over eight hours was time and a half. This extra time made it possible for our members to make up for some lost time during the week. That is, when there was any extra work to be done.

No law should be so rigid as not to provide for emergencies, and especially when it affects unions whose laws always provide penalties for overtime.

Our night workers were working 44 hours in five nights. They now lose four hours' pay. Steady night work is new to us, but as we organize the larger shops we will have more of it, with regular night shifts.

Our binderies for the trade will find it difficult to conform to this new law. They are given the work to do at very short notice, and when the pressmen get through with their part of the work. And, by the way, the men have 40-hour weeks and six-hour days. All with provisions for overtime, *and let anyone try to take that right away from them!*

But the advocates of the eight-hour law for women claim that the women die from excessive hours of work. Well, we have a second generation in our union, many daughters of charter members of 30 and 35 years ago, initiated for several years back. And instead of more women being employed, the larger publication houses have already put boys to work where, in the past, our young women were employed.

There is no limitation of hours in surrounding states, so that if plants see fit to send work out of the state, it won't be women alone who will lose jobs.

I would appreciate any information from states that have hour limits and hope to hear from our women members in these locals.

Woman Bailiff And Jurors

On September 14, in Canandaigua, New York, in the courtroom where fifty-four years ago, Susan B. Anthony, pioneer Equal Rights advocate, was convicted of illegal voting, New York's first woman bailiff was sworn in and six women jurors were chosen for the Federal District Court grand jury.

The jurors were New York's first women chosen under the new State law permitting women to serve on juries, which became effective September 1.

Of the twelve women in the panel, only two availed themselves of the privilege of being excused on the ground of sex.

Prospect 5853 Est. 1922

Investment Service for Women Only

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WOMEN'S SERVICE DEPARTMENT

1009 South Grand Ave. Los Angeles, Cal.

GERTRUDE I. GEORGE, Chairman for Equal Rights Petition, Western Region — Director Business Woman's Legislative Council of California; secured 148,000 signatures for Equal Rights Amendment petition for California alone.

Government Workers Council To Remain Active

MRS. EDITH HOUGHTON HOOKER, of the National Council, National Woman's Party, told the Government Workers Council of the Party at its annual meeting at headquarters Thursday evening, September 23, that the victory won in the repeal of Section 213 of the Economy Act was only a temporary one, and that it is now time to make that victory secure and guard against other discriminations by placing in the Constitution of the United States an Equal Rights Amendment.

"You have shown what you can do," Mrs. Hooker told the Council, "and that places upon your shoulders a great responsibility." Congratulating them on the splendid campaign for the repeal of the Section of the Economy Act that resulted in many married women losing government jobs, Mrs. Hooker urged them to put their shoulders to the wheel and make use of their experience and training to help all women of the United States win equal rights. "It is all very well," she said, "to work to remove discrimination after discrimination, but in so doing, you are taking hold of the short end of the lever. What you now need to do," she declared, "is to take hold of the long end of the lever, which I believe is the campaign for the Equal Rights Amendment that would put a stop to discriminatory laws based on sex."

Mrs. Hooker's talk was greeted with enthusiastic applause and Mrs. Edwina Austin Avery, Chairman of the Council, extended to her the appreciation of the group for her assistance and her devotion to their cause.

Having been victorious in the cause which brought the members of the Council together, it was decided to continue as an organization and work for equal rights, including the right of all women to work for a living, and to resist any attempt to eliminate them from the economic field because of marriage.

Dr. Parmanand, of India, the first woman of her country to receive the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Oxford, was then introduced and spoke interestingly of women in India.

At the close of the meeting the election of officers was held, Mrs. Avery being reelected chairman. Mrs. Sarah T. Pell, National Chairman, National Woman's Party, Mrs. Edith Houghton Hooker, of the National Council, and Helen Hunt West, Editor of Equal Rights, were chosen members of the Advisory Council. Others elected were as follows:

First vice-chairman, Grace Cochran; second, Florence Heath; third, Emlie Newnam; treasurer, Grace Brewer; assistant treasurer, Lillian Niccum; recording secretary, Annette McClellan; corresponding secretary, Lydia Beehler; assistant corresponding secretary, Evelyn Cornick; publicity, May Gross; membership, Ida Als; vice-chairman, Charlotte Baillie; ways and means, Hilda Weinerth; vice-chairman, Gladys Whalley; congressional, Vera Johnson; vice-chairman, Helen Forbes; hospitality, Mabel Noe; vice-chairman, Rose Snodgrass.

Board of Directors: Abbie Owen, Page Kirk, Edith Forster, Rosalie Taylor, Ellen C. Callicott, Gertrude Evans, Harriet Sheppard, Lois Babcock, Kathryn Withrow, Jennie McKibbin.

We Solicit Contributions and Subscriptions

This a *personal appeal* to every person who believes that Equal Rights carries a message that should be read by every woman in the United States. *Help us see that she gets it* and you will be helping to secure *justice for women.* Send contributions and subscriptions to Equal Rights, 144 B Street, Northeast, Washington, D. C.

Through Equal Rights we are able to apprise women who are remote from the political arena, state and national, of restrictive legislation proposed or enacted, which affects every phase of their lives. Through this dissemination of information women have been able to throw the weight of their influence for or against proposals that *affected them materially.* Without the information they would have been impotent. In many instances their right to work for a living has been saved through concerted action resulting from such information received before it was too late. Ignorance of what is transpiring today, as it relates to women, threatens every gain.

We therefore appeal to *each and every reader* of Equal Rights to secure immediately additional subscribers. *FUNDS ARE SORELY NEEDED,* and *CONTRIBUTIONS, LARGE AND SMALL, ARE SOLICITED!* Our most effective means of spreading the campaign for the Equal Rights Amendment is through the medium of our magazine, through which we keep you informed in order that you may know how you can work effectively both in the states and in the national Congress. You can do a *real service* to yourself and all other women by contributing to Equal Rights Magazine *now* in order that it may broaden its influence through expansion.

It is a debt we owe the pioneer women whose unfailing devotion and self sacrifice brought us this far toward freedom. Equal Rights carries the gospel of those women!